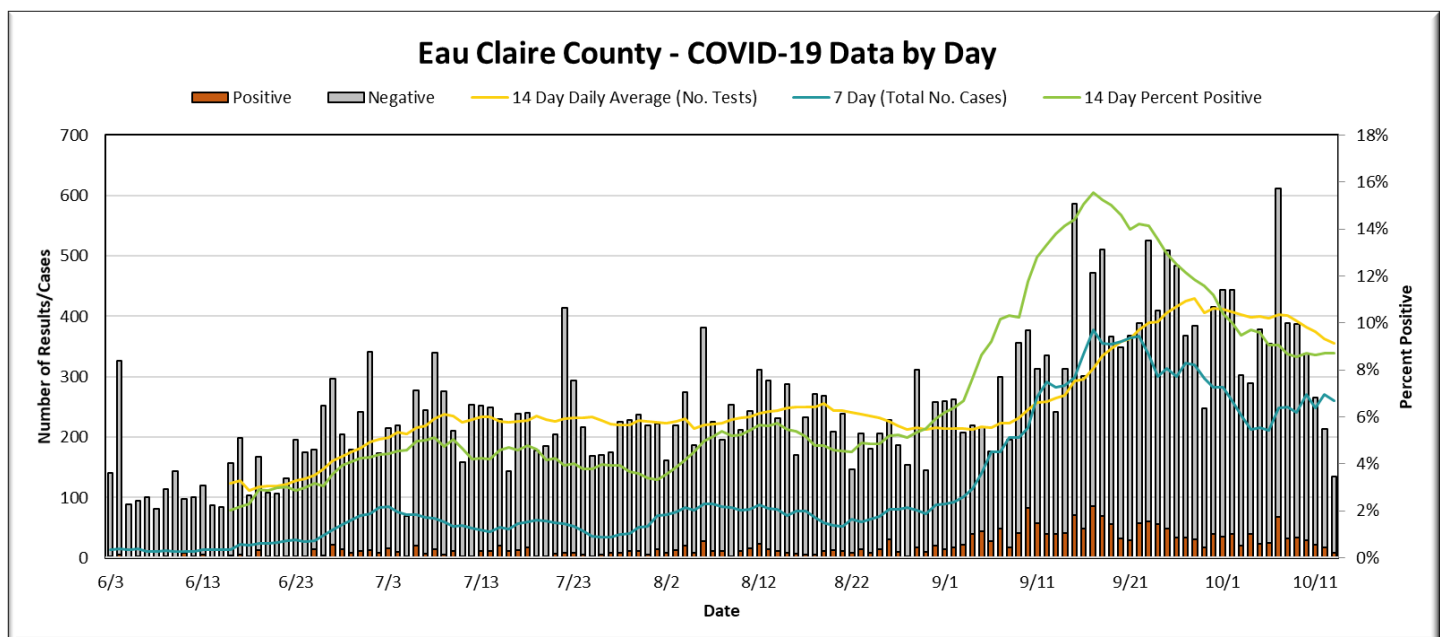


## COVID-19 State and Local Case Summary

Data as reported to DHS by 9:00 PM on 10/13/2020						
<i>*unless otherwise noted, percent change calculated from previous week (may include jurisdiction corrections)</i>						
County/ State	Total Cases	Change from Previous Day	Change from Previous Week	14 Day Cumulative Positivity Rate <sup>^</sup>	Cases per 100k People	Deaths
Eau Claire	2,471	+17 (+0.7%)	+260 (+11.8%)	8.7% (-0.3)	2,401.5	9 (+1)
Buffalo	185	+7 (+3.9%)	+24 (+14.9%)	6.5% (+1.7)	1,369.5	2 (-)
Chippewa	887	+28 (+3.3%)	+189 (+27.1%)	8.7% (+1.4)	1,381.2	1 (+1)
Clark	578	+16 (+2.8%)	+76 (+15.1%)	11.7% (-0.4)	1,663.7	9 (+1)
Dunn	791	+0 (No Change)	+85 (+12.0%)	7.7% (-2.0)	1,766.5	1 (-)
Jackson	225	+7 (+3.2%)	+36 (+19.0%)	7.1% (-0.9)	1,089.9	1 (-)
Pepin	81	+2 (2.5%)	+8 (+11.0%)	5.1% (-0.9)	1,102.2	0 (-)
Trempealeau	816	+9 (+1.1%)	+68 (+9.1%)	7.1% (-0.4)	2,781.9	2 (-)
Wisconsin	158,578	+3,107 (+2.0%)	+19,880 (+14.33%)	10.2% (+0.6)	2,743.1	1,536 (+8.55%)

<sup>^</sup>This rate is calculated 'by test'. This means that if one person is tested multiple times, each of those tests are counted in the denominator of total tests.



Additional Data:

[EC County](#)

[WI County-Level](#)

[Wisconsin](#)

[U.S.](#)

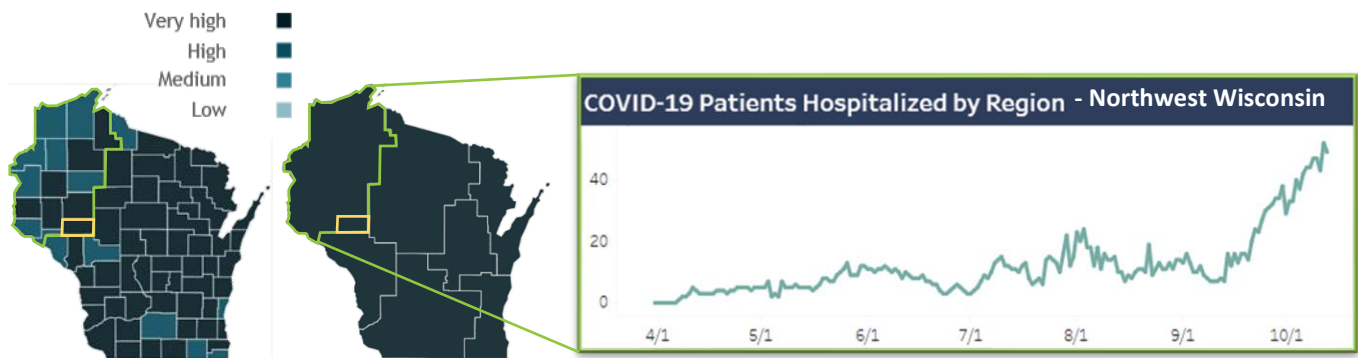
## Eau Claire County Weekly Metrics Summary

(Unless otherwise noted, metrics were calculated using data reported by WI DHS during 14-days ending 10/13/2020 and compared to the 14-days ending on 10/06/2020)

● Good ● Proceed with Caution ● Metric is Concerning — Status Not Classified ↓/↑ Metric Improved ↓/↑ Metric Declined

Metric Description	Value	Change	Metric Status
Percent Positive Tests (New Calculation by WI DHS) <i>*Includes negative tests not yet finalized in the disease reporting system and may include multiple days of results from one individual</i>	8.7%	↓0.3	●
Change in New Cases (within last 14 days) 471 Total: 260 in final 7 days/211 in first 7 days	471 Total (260/211)	↑23%	●
Case Activity Level (State Calculated)	Very High	No Change	—
New Outbreaks	11	↑2	●
Community Spread	42%	↑4	●
COVID-Like Illness Activity Level (State Measure)	Medium	No Change	—
Tests Conducted (# of tests/100k people/day)	345	↓47	—
Health Care Worker Testing	100%	No Change	●
Crisis Care Patient Treatment	100%	No Change	●
Case Contact Timeliness (in 24 hrs.)	82%	↑4	●
Contact Tracing (in 48 hrs.)	58% in 48 hrs.	↑22	●

## COVID-19 Activity Level by County and Region and Northwest WI Hospitalization Data



Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services [COVID-19 Activity Page](#)

## Data and Metric Narrative

The local data and metrics generally remain in a very similar place as they were last week. The positivity rate during the most recent 14-day period declined to 8.7%, which is a slight improvement over the previous week. While the number of cases over the most recent 7-days rose to 260 which is 23% higher than the 211 reported in the week prior, the cumulative total over the past 14-days (471) was actually lower than the 14-days ending the

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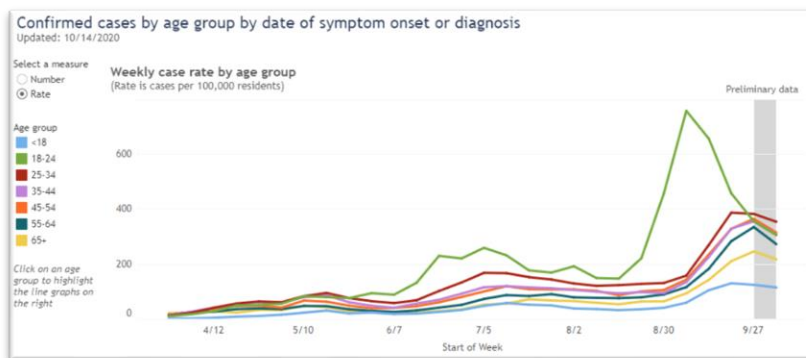
week prior (508). Cases continue to be confirmed at a very high rate (33.6 per day over past 14-days) and remain more than twice as high as the case rate seen prior to the most recent climb in cases, which began in early September. The continued goal is for this rate to be closer to 10 cases per day.

The number of tests being performed has continued to decline since reaching a peak several weeks ago but testing generally remains much higher than levels observed prior to September. Although remaining at an overall concerning level, other metrics that improved this week include the timeliness of both case contact and contact tracing which are measures of public health response. As mentioned previously, the current case rate in Eau Claire County continues to correlate with a rating of “Very High” for activity level, while the trajectory in activity over the past week shows “No significant Change” after “Shrinking” for the 2 weeks prior. This change in trajectory is evident in the metrics and data trends shown above, as the data has been relatively flat over the past week. Additional information about COVID-19 activity by County and region can be viewed at the newly updated [DHS Activity Level webpage](#), including data illustrations that are also shown on the bottom of page 2 of this report. Notably concerning this week are increases in the number of new outbreaks and the percentage of cases that are attributed to community spread.

Statewide and locally, hospitalizations from COVID-19 continue to climb at an alarming rate. The number of hospitalized patients in Wisconsin reaches a new all-time high nearly every day and is now well over twice as high as the peak number reached last spring. All regions of Wisconsin are either at or very close to their all-time high in COVID-19 patients. Like hospitalizations, the number of deaths continues to increase, including locally, as for the second straight week 3 more deaths were attributed to COVID-19 in Eau Claire and surrounding counties. At the state level, the average number of COVID-19 deaths occurring per day has been at an all-time high over the past 14-days at nearly 15 per day.

As discussed for the past several weeks and illustrated in the [graphic](#) below, the rate of cases between age groups has not been evenly distributed for many months, and has been even more skewed since late-August. Except for the 18-24-year age group which peaked several weeks ago, all other age groups are currently near the highest rate of cases observed to date. The increase in infections among older age groups over the past several weeks is believed to be a significant factor in the increased number of hospitalizations and deaths observed over that same time frame.

Despite improvement in the case contact and contact tracing metrics, public health capacity remains compromised at the current rate of cases. As they have for the past month, public health staff continue to prioritize contacting people who have tested positive and their highest-risk contacts. This means that fewer close contacts (those that are not high risk) have received a call from a health department staff person in recent weeks, but have rather been notified by the person who tested positive (such as a family member or friend), or in group settings, the school, daycare, or other location where the exposure occurred. This impact to public health response is concerning, as without direct communication with the close contacts who need to quarantine, there may be people in the community that don't know they are at high risk of developing COVID-19.



The information that the health department staff provide when they are able to reach all close contacts can mitigate the confusion about what it means to be a close contact and improve the understanding of the necessity of quarantine to slow the spread of disease.

The Health Department continues to implore the community to follow the measures that we know work to slow the spread of disease – keeping social circles small, stay home when sick, wash hands frequently, and wear cloth face coverings whenever in public or around people not from your household. It also remains critical that people who have tested positive or have been notified that they are close contact answer the phone from public health staff to talk through the need to isolate or quarantine. Slowing the spread of disease is critical for keeping businesses, schools, and all other shared priorities open and thriving.

**Additional Metrics:**

[WI Activity Level by County/Region](#)

[WI Hospital Capabilities](#)

[WI Facility-Level Investigations](#)

[EC County Metrics - Summary](#)

[EC County Metrics - Detailed](#)

[EC County Exposures & Investigations](#)

## Eau Claire County COVID-19 Prevention and Control Community Expectations

On October 13, 2020, the Eau Claire City Council considered an amendment to Title 8 of the City Code of Ordinances that sought to create a framework for the issuance of enforceable general health officer orders in the City of Eau Claire. This ordinance was brought forward in response to considerations presented by the Wisconsin Counties Association concerning the need for certain legislative procedures to ensure that local health officer communicable disease orders of general applicability can be effectively enforced in Wisconsin. After significant deliberation, the Council decided to postpone a vote on the ordinance to a later date. The Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors is slated to consider an equivalent ordinance next week Tuesday. Despite the uncertainty in how the ordinance may be resolved at the County level, there is interest in maintaining consistency throughout Eau Claire County. The Eau Claire County COVID-19 Prevention and Control Order has been rewritten and re-framed as community expectations, as opposed to an enforceable order. The expectations generally reflect the guidance and requirements outlined in preceding orders and therefore the community expectations have not changed. The concerns about COVID-19 spread remain the same. The expectations are now in effect and will remain until superseding expectations, orders, or ordinances are issued.

**Additional Information:**

[Current Expectations](#)

[UWEC Dashboard](#)

## Other Eau Claire County Incident Command Updates

*\*Remains unchanged since last report*

### **Court Developments Concerning Statewide Orders**

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, a Polk County Circuit Judge ruled that Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers retained the authority to issue successive 60-day emergency declarations for the same emergency, which had been the basis of a lawsuit filed to halt the statewide face covering mandate. This ruling thereby upheld the Governor's ability to impose the mandate as described in [Emergency Order #1](#). The statewide mandate remains in effect through November 21<sup>st</sup>.

On October 14<sup>th</sup>, a Sawyer County Circuit Judge issued a temporary restraining order to block enforcement of [Emergency Order #3](#), which limits many indoor public gatherings in Wisconsin to no more than 25 percent of a room or building's total occupancy. The restraining order was the result of a lawsuit filed by the Tavern League of Wisconsin on October 13<sup>th</sup>. In response to the decision, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers announced that the decision would be challenged.

Additional developments regarding these and other applicable orders will be provided as they are available.

### **WEDSS Update this Weekend**

The State of Wisconsin will be performing an update to the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS) this coming weekend starting at 5:00 pm Friday. This update is expected to make significant improvements to enhance efficiency for local health departments and generally improve the quality of data. Unfortunately, this update will require the system to be unavailable over the weekend. Therefore, test results will not be available in WEDSS during this period. This will result in several days of limited test results being reported, which is expected to present challenges for effective disease response. To mitigate these potential challenges, the Health Department is coordinating with local health care providers to facilitate direct notification of positive test results over the weekend to promote more rapid contact with cases and close contacts.

### **Upcoming Influenza Vaccination Clinics**

Planning is underway to conduct multiple drive-thru influenza vaccination clinics this fall. There is currently an event slated to occur at the August Community and Senior Center (616 W. Washington St. in Augusta) from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm on Saturday October 24, 2020 and another is likely to take place in Eau Claire. The details for the second event are yet to be finalized. The Department hosts community vaccination clinics every year but will be conducting the clinics as drive-thru events this year to facilitate preparation for future COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Influenza vaccinations are especially important this year both to reduce the typical number of influenza hospitalizations and to reduce individuals' risk of co-infection with influenza and COVID-19, which is likely to increase risk for severe illness. As hospitals are already experiencing unprecedented numbers of hospitalizations due to COVID-19, keeping the numbers of non-COVID-19 hospitalizations low would be helpful in enhancing hospital capacity. The Health Department encourages residents to obtain influenza vaccinations through their health care providers as a limited supply of vaccines will be available at these mass vaccination community events. However, these clinics provide an alternative option. Vaccines will be administered until they are no longer available. Additional events may be planned if vaccine inventory is available following these events. Further details about these events will be announced as they are finalized and will also be included in upcoming situation reports.

### **Multiple Community Testing Sites Now Operating in Eau Claire County**

There are now 2 Community Testing Sites established in Eau Claire County. Drive-thru testing at both sites is being offered free of charge and with support from the Wisconsin National Guard (WING) to supplement existing clinical testing options in and around Eau Claire County.

The first of these sites is a regional site located at 6697 US Hwy 12 West in Eau Claire and is operating from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm on Mondays and Fridays and from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturdays through December 7<sup>th</sup>. Registration prior to arrival and on the day of the test is requested and can be completed [here](#). Additional details on this site can be viewed [here](#).

The second site is located at the Augusta Senior & Community Center at 616 W. Washington St. in Augusta and is operating from 2:00 to 7:00 pm on Wednesdays through December 9<sup>th</sup>. Registration prior to arrival and on the day of the test is requested and can be completed [here](#). Additional details on this site can be viewed [here](#).

More details about these and other testing options are available at the [Symptoms and Testing page](#) of the Eau Claire COVID-19 Information Hub.

### **COVID-19 Potential Community Exposures and Public Health Investigations**

As a reminder, Eau Claire City-County Health Department alerts the public of [potential COVID-19 exposure](#) at local establishments whenever a positive individual is known to have visited a location and have been in prolonged close contact with persons that they are unable to identify. There were no new public notifications issued in the past week. Any future public notifications will be posted on the above web page along with a weekly summary of the active and total Public Health Investigations in Eau Claire County related to COVID-19.

### **\*Guidance for Halloween Activities**

Traditional trick-or-treating activities and Halloween parties present increased risk for COVID-19 transmission. However, there are precautions that can be taken to reduce risk of community spread of COVID-19 during holiday activities. Local Health Department guidance can be found [here](#), with additional recommendations available through [CDC](#), [WI DHS](#), and [Harvard Global Health Institute \(HGHI\)](#). We hope people find ways to enjoy Halloween in safe, healthy, and fun ways.

### **\*COVID-19 Call Center**

The number for the COVID call center is (715) 831-7425 with hours 8:30am – 4:30pm Monday through Friday. Callers may leave a message and a return phone call will occur within the same business day.

### **\*Reminder to Sign up for Situation Report e-notifications:**

If you would like to receive direct notification whenever new reports are added, please sign up for an automated email notification at: <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/our-city/sign-up-for-e-notifications>. To successfully register for these updates, you must provide your name and email address and subscribe to “COVID-19 Situation Report.”

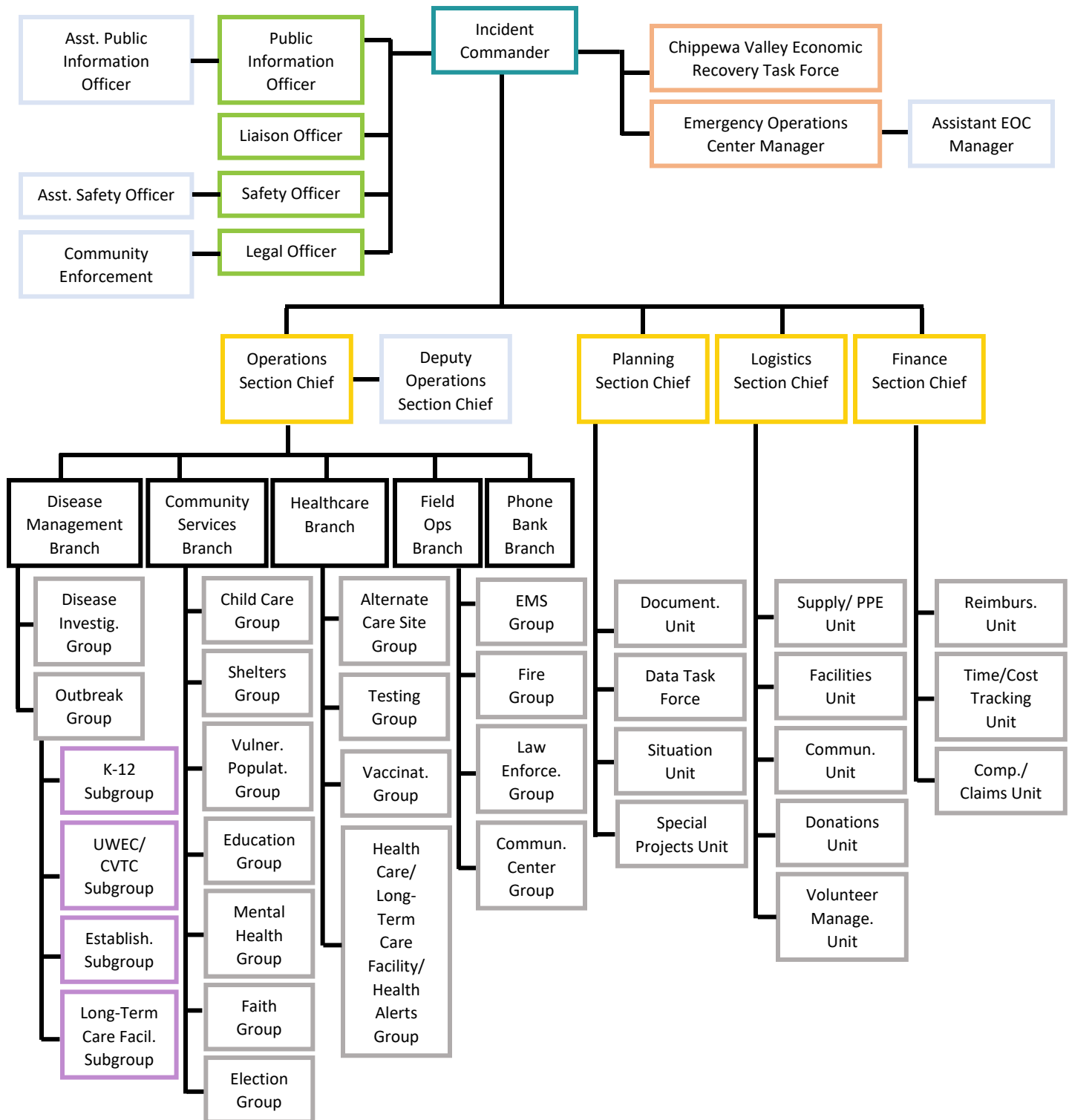
### **\*Current Duration of Operational Period**

1 week (7 Days) - Friday 9:00 am – Friday 8:59 am



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Current Organizational Structure



**\*Current Incident Objectives**

Objective #1: Contain and mitigate community spread of COVID-19

Objective #2: Coordinate strategies to facilitate a safe and effective social and economic reopening and recovery

Objective #3: Provide relevant, accurate information and resources to the general public, specialty populations, and key partners

Objective #4: Facilitate and support the Development and implementation of community-wide health care surge and response plans and actions in coordination with local health care providers and state and federal agencies

Objective #5: Sustain and adapt operation of the Emergency Operations Center and incident command elements

**Other Pertinent Links and Resources**

*\* Remains unchanged since last report*

- ❖ [Gov. Evers Urges Wisconsinites to Stay Home](#)
- ❖ [DHS Preventing & Managing COVID-19 Outbreaks in the Workplace](#): Guidance for Employers
- ❖ [DHS COVID-19 Alternate Care Facility at Wisconsin State Fair Park Webpage and FAQs](#)
- ❖ [Resources to Support Skilled Nursing Facilities](#) in Determining Admission Policies during COVID-19 Outbreak
- ❖ [Adult Home and Community-Based Services COVID-19 Data](#)
- ❖ CDC added [vaccine-specific content](#) to its extensive COVID-19 website
- ❖ New from DHS: [COVID-19 Next Steps for College Students](#)
  - This resource will be translated into additional languages
- ❖ Gov. Tony Evers: [CARES Investments](#) (video)
- ❖ State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC) Public Meetings and Materials
  - [October 15, 2020](#)
  - [October 22, 2020](#)
- ❖ [New and Updated from CDC](#):
  - [Global Handwashing Day](#) (10/15)
  - [Interim Considerations for Testing for K-12 School Administrators and Public Health Officials](#)
  - [Holiday Celebrations](#) (including Halloween, Día de los Muertos, and Thanksgiving)
- ❖ [More Than 205,000 Wisconsin Households to Receive Additional October FoodShare Benefits](#) in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
- ❖ [Office of Children's Mental Health](#) publishes new [fact sheet](#) on disparities in youth justice and what our communities can do to make a difference
- ❖ [COVID-19 Health Alert #18](#): Resources for Health Departments to Support Quarantine and Isolation Requirements



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- ❖ Reminder: [Provider Relief Funding Available](#)
- ❖ [Gov. Evers Releases Statement Regarding Circuit Court Decision](#) Leaving Public Health Emergency Intact
- ❖ BCD: [Lessons Learned from Early Infection Control and Response Visits](#) (ICARs) with LTCF Topic 5
- ❖ The [Visitors to Facilities guidance](#) on the [COVID-19: Nursing Homes](#) page has been updated to reference [CMS Memo QSO-20-39 Nursing Home Visitation](#) guidance and expectations on how nursing homes can safely facilitate in-person visitation to address the psychosocial needs of residents.
- ❖ Halloween Resources:
  - DHS: [Celebrating Halloween Safely One-Pager](#)
  - de Beaumont's [Safety Tips for Halloween 2020](#)
- ❖ [New and Updated from CDC:](#)
  - MMWR: [Factors Influencing Risk for COVID-19 Exposure Among Young Adults Aged 18-23 Years--Winnebago County, WI, March-July 2020](#)
  - MMWR: [Transmission Dynamics by Age Group in COVID-19 Hotspot Counties--United States, April-September, 2020](#)
  - MMWR: [Characteristics Associated with Adults Remembering to Wash Hands](#) in Multiple Situations Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic--United States, October 2019 and June 2020
  - MMWR: [Adolescent with COVID-19 as the Source of an Outbreak at a 3-Week Family Gathering--Four States, June-July 2020](#)
  - MMWR: [Case Series of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Adults Associated with SARS-CoV-2 Infection--United Kingdom and United States, March-August 2020](#)
- ❖ [Addressing mental health challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
  - [Resilient Wisconsin](#)
  - [Psychological First Aid](#)
- ❖ CDC has funded [Act Early COVID-19 Response Teams](#) in 43 states and territories to support families and systems affected by COVID-19 to improve resiliency
  - [Ways to Promote Children's Wellbeing](#)
  - [Feelings Thermometer](#), from the Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health

***Additional Links and Resources:***

<a href="#">EC County COVID-19 Information Hub</a>	<a href="#">Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce COVID-19 Website</a>
<a href="#">Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)</a>	<a href="#">Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance</a>
<a href="#">Wisconsin Department of Health Service (WI DHS) COVID-19 website</a>	<a href="#">Health Care Providers webpage</a>
<a href="#">Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 website</a>	<a href="#">CDC Health Alert Network (HAN)</a>

**Next Scheduled Situation Report Date:** Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020